

ER 10-3359/A

7 May 1958

Mr. Waddill Catchings



Dear Waddill:

I appreciate your letter of 2 May 1958, and your thoughtful comments on my talk before the Chamber of Commerce.

It would be a great pleasure to see you and I suggest that at your convenience, you give me a call so that we can fix the time to our mutual convenience.

Sincerely,

Signed

Allen W. Dulles
Director

AWD/ji

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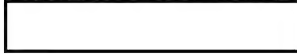
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10-3359

WADDILL CATCHINGS



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May 2, 1958

Mr. Allen W. Dulles
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Allen:

I have read with great interest your speech before the United States Chamber of Commerce. It is a magnificent piece of work, and deals in a most effective way with matters of the first importance in determining our future life.

Knowing how intensely you are studying the challenge you describe, I hope you will not mind my writing you briefly upon the related fact that Soviet success depends in large measure upon the industrial and economic growth of the United States. And while this also concerns the business leaders in our country, it concerns even more the leaders of our Government in Washington.

You are aware, I am sure, that for fifty years I have given close attention to the fact that many fundamental theories of economists are not in accord with facts well known to businessmen. Although conflict between teachers and men of affairs has long existed, it is now of utmost significance as economic welfare becomes more and more the objective of political action. That the economic profession does not understand the profit system of competitive free enterprise is, I believe, the gravest threat today to the continued existence of freedom in the world.

The course of our economic life is guided by professional economists as they teach in our schools and colleges and give advice in the enactment and enforcement of our legislation. And after many years of experience and observation I am convinced that until these teachers and advisors learn for themselves the realities of the business world as it is, we shall continue to weaken the forces which give strength and vitality to our productive system.

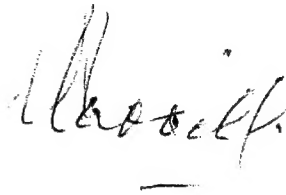
Mr. Allen W. Dulles

May 2, 1958

It is manifest that economists listen with attention only to other economists. Realizing this, I am devoting most of my time to enabling some of these scholarly experts to learn by basic research the facts in relation to their theories. And getting good results.

What I am doing has a direct bearing upon our successfully meeting the Russian challenge with which you are so concerned. Consequently, I am sure that even in your busy life, you will find it worth while to let me come to Washington for an hour's talk with you. And I can assure you that the only help you can give me is in your informed encouragement!

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Nassif", with a horizontal line underneath.